



**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
CORPORATION OF HAWAII**

**LINDA LINGLE**  
GOVERNOR

**NEWS RELEASE**

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**STATE RECEIVES GRANT TO IMPROVE BIG ISLAND  
YOUTH FACILITY AND DEVELOP ANTI-DRUG PROGRAMS**

HONOLULU - The Housing and Community Development Corporation of Hawai'i (HCDCH) received a \$268,245 grant to improve the Boys and Girls Club of Hawai'i's Big Island facility and develop anti-drug programs for youth.

"HCDCH is an agency committed to the betterment of the community and we make every effort to support programs that build character and prevent drug use among our youth," HCDCH Executive Director Stephanie Aveiro said.

The grant, administered by HCDCH, comes from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) 2003 Economic Development Initiative (EDI). U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye assisted with the grant and HCDCH worked with the Boys and Girls Club officials to apply for funding.

The club will use the money to assess the physical condition of the facility and make any needed improvements. Since its construction in 1962, the center has served more than 50,000 youth in the Hilo community.

The grant will also help fund after-school and prevention programs that deter youth from drug and criminal activity by linking them to an adult mentor or tutor. The club also expects to develop programs that provide homework assistance and sports and leadership activities.

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